MUNDO OBRERO
WORKERS WORLD

Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite!
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Message from Tehran

‘Iran will resist, will fight back’

The following message from Global Resistance for Peace and Justice based in Tehran was issued on June 28, 2025.

To all organizations and individuals who responded to our call for international actions on June 28 in solidarity with Palestine and Iran, we extend our sincere gratitude for your participation. Your engagement in these actions reflects your commitment to just struggles, and while we recognize that you do not seek acknowledgment, we wish to express our appreciation for your support.

We would like to especially thank the United National Antiwar Coalition (UNAC) and BAYAN-Philippines for not only providing their support but also actively organizing these important solidarity actions.

Today, just a few hours ago, millions of people in Tehran gathered to honor martyrs who have lost their precious lives during the 12 days of Israeli/United States brutal bombardments. This tribute included several of our high ranking military leaders, great scientists and numerous innocent civilians, including many children.

The gathering conveyed a strong message of resilience: that Iran is committed to defending its sovereignty and will respond to aggressions. The message was, that Iran will resist, will fight back and shall never be surrounded. In fact, it echoed the same message which was passed earlier by the brave supreme leader of Iran, who has stood firm at the forefront of the historical liberation struggles of our heroic nation.

This situation highlights a fundamental difference between those who advocate for human rights and dignity and those who pursue dominance and exploitation. Our struggle is deeply rooted in the values of liberty, peace, sovereignty and national integrity. In contrast, our adversaries resort to violence and oppression in their pursuit of power and racist supremacy.

So, we invite all who seek to understand the realities on the ground to recognize that Iran remains steadfast in its commitment to its sovereignty and will respond to any acts of aggression, regardless of the aggressor, including the United States, which is one of the most powerful empires in history. ☐

WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

Philadelphia, June 28, 2025. View a roundup of solidarity actions with Iran and Palestine online.

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Join us in the fight for socialism!

Workers World Party is a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We are a multinational, multigenerational and multigendered organization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society because it's the only way forward!

Capitalism and imperialism threaten the peoples of the world and the planet itself in the neverending quest for ever-greater profits.

Capitalism means war and austerity, racism and repression, attacks on im/migrants, misogyny, LGBTQ2S+ oppression and mistreatment of people with disabilities. It means joblessness, increasing homelessness and impoverishment and lack of hope for the future. No social problems can be solved under capitalism.

The U.S. is the richest country in the world, yet no one has a guaranteed right to shelter, food, water, health care, education or anything else — unless they can pay for it. Wages are lower than ever, and youth are saddled with seemingly insurmountable student debt, if they even make it to college. Black, Brown and Indigenous youth and trans people are gunned down by cops and bigots on a regular basis.

The ruthless ruling class today seeks to wipe out decades of gains and benefits won by hard-fought struggles by people's movements. The super-rich and their political representatives have intensified their attacks on the multinational, multigender and multigenerational working class. It is time to point the blame at — and challenge — the capitalist system.

WWP fights for socialism because the working class produces all wealth in society, and this wealth should remain in their hands, not be stolen in the form of capitalist profits. The wealth workers create should be socially owned and its distribution planned to satisfy and guarantee basic human needs.

Since 1959, Workers World Party has been out in the streets defending the workers and oppressed here and worldwide. If you're interested in Marxism, class solidarity, and joining us in the fight for a socialist future, please sign up at **www.workers.org/join-form** and an organizer will get back to you. Or contact a WWP branch near you. □

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Defend marriage equality! No going back!

WORKERS WORLD *editorial*

June 26 was the tenth anniversary of the Supreme Court of the United States decision legalizing marriage between people of the same gender. It occurs as Pride month is coming to a close and just two days before the 56th anniversary of the start of the Stonewall Uprising in New York City.

The 2015 decision was an enormous victory for the LGBTQIA2S+ movement. It gave same-sex couples the same marital rights as heterosexual couples.

This is not just a matter of challenging stigmas and stereotypes. There are thousands of concrete material benefits that come with marriage, from collecting Social Security or veterans benefits as a surviving spouse to being able to jointly adopt children to hospital visitation rights — and much more.

The SCOTUS ruling also meant that transgender, gender non-conforming and non-binary people could marry their partners, regardless of their sexuality and whether or not the state they lived in recognized their gender identity.

Now that victory is under attack! As lead plaintiff Jim Obergefell stated in an email from the civil rights organization Equality Ohio: "Ten years later, anti-equality forces are attacking our rights like never before. In fact, they're passing state laws and resolutions, trying to get the Supreme Court to overturn marriage equality."

Idaho and North Dakota legislatures have passed bills calling on SCOTUS to reconsider the Obergefell decision.

Obergefell adds: "Even worse are the attacks on the transgender community, including in my home of Ohio, where transgender youth are subject to laws that have torn their healthcare away, removed their right to play sports or use the correct restroom at school and subjected them to a forced outing law, even when doing so puts them at risk of abuse at home."

The hard-fought gains of the queer movement are under attack at the federal, state and local levels. But the community is fighting back!

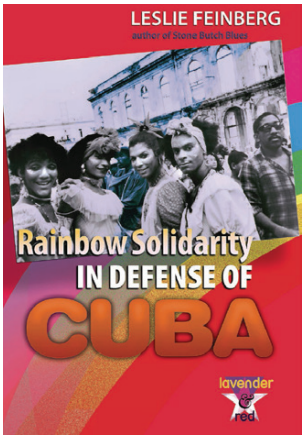
Queer Liberation march, New York City, June 29, 2025. WW PHOTO: JENNIFER GREEN

WW PHOTO: JENNIFER GREEN

Queer Liberation March makes it clear: Stonewall means fight back!

Now is no time for retreat. Every class-conscious worker must build solidarity with the LGBTQIA2S+ communities and help resist the right-wing attacks on trans rights, marriage rights and everything they have won through decades of struggle. This must be tied in with all of the battles confronting the multinational, multigendered working class — fighting white supremacy, defending migrants, joining the struggle against all forms of patriarchal oppression, supporting people with disabilities, stopping union busting and more.

Defend marriage equality! No going back! ☐



Rainbow Solidarity in DEFENSE of CUBA

lavender & red

By Leslie Feinberg, author of Stone Butch Blues

This book is an edited compilation of chapters 86 to 110 from the **Lavender & Red** series in Workers World newspaper that began June 3, 2004. The series documents how the left wing of the revolutionary movement, including leaders of workers' states, has supported the demand to end state repression against same-sex love for more than a century.

Free downloads are available at ***workers.org/books***

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Zohran Mamdani's victory

What we know and don't know

WW COMMENTARY

By Monica Moorehead

To say that Zohran Mamdani winning the Democratic Party primary for mayor of New York City on June 24 was a complete stunner would be a monumental understatement. He officially beat his opponent, former New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, who conceded his defeat the same night as the vote. While it is far too early to assess what developments will take place before the mayoral vote Nov. 4, there are some points we do know and, more importantly, some we do not know.

What we do know is that Mamdani is a South Asian Muslim, born in Kampala, Uganda. His mother is the acclaimed Indian film director Mira Nair. His father, Mahmood Mamdani, is a professor who once taught in Cape Town, South Africa, and now teaches at Columbia University in New York City.

Mamdani, a member of the New York State Assembly representing a district in Queens, ran on a platform of freezing rents and affordable housing, fast, free buses, no cost childcare and city-owned grocery stores. (zohranfornyc.com/platform) He is a member of the Democratic Socialists of America, a reformist coalition that is generally to the left of the Democratic Party establishment.

While Mamdani's June 24 win excited one million South Asian residents, reportedly along with many young voters in New York City, it drew a strong condemnation from Wall Street and big real estate corporations, along with zealous, right-wing, pro-Israel politicians, who spent $25 million on Cuomo's campaign.

These forces falsely labeled Mamdani as a "terrorist" and "antisemitic" even though Mamdani has stated he believes Israel has the "right to exist." Some Republicans have actually called for the deportation of Mamdani, who became a U.S. citizen once his parents migrated here when he was seven years old.

What we don't know

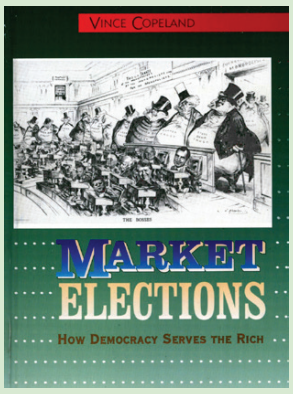
The Democratic Party is a pro-ruling class, pro-war party, similar to the Republican Party, that will attempt to co-opt its mass base by using any tactic to win elections. One of its most insidious tactics is uplifting politicians of color, whether it is a Zohran Mamdani or a Barack Obama. Voting in any U.S. election with the goal of fundamentally changing the living conditions of the masses winds up being a major disappointment. Bourgeois class rule always maintains its domination.

With all of this in mind, some questions still to be answered in the coming months are: Will Mamdani take his campaign beyond the constraints of the electoral arena? Or will his campaign cave into right-wing attacks from both capitalist parties? Will the Mamdani campaign directly engage the masses to support his platform of free buses and childcare and to prevent landlords from raising rents by calling strikes or direct actions to shake up the powers that be? Will any intensified Islamophobic, xenophobic or racist attacks or fraudulent claims of antisemitism against the Mamdani campaign spark a mass fightback amongst supporters?

The answers to these questions and more will have national and international consequences due to the heroic resistance to imperialism in the Global South led by forces in West Asia, leading to the permanent decline of global capitalism. And New York City remains the center of global finance capitalism.

No matter how the Mamdani campaign plays out in November, the time has ripened for revolutionary anti-imperialists, socialists and anyone who wants to get rid of capitalism to develop an independent united front to forge class unity to achieve this ultimate goal. ☐

Zohran Mamdani supporters celebrate victory in New York City, June 24, 2025.



Market Elections

How democracy serves the rich

By Vince Copeland

An invaluable reference for those seeking to understand the complexities of how the ruling class has been able to use the 'democratic process' to stay in power for more than two centuries — and how mass movements can break through the two-party straightjacket to bring about real change.

Paperback (296 pages) published in 2000.
Free PDF and Epub available at workers.org/books

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Porqué Mundo Obrero defiende a Irán

MUNDO OBRERO
editorial

¿Por qué es importante que el movimiento mundial defienda a Irán? ¿Es porque este país de 92 millones de habitantes fue bombardeado recientemente por el régimen sionista de Israel, respaldado por Estados Unidos, el 12 de junio, seguido del bombardeo de sus tres reactores nucleares por el Pentágono el 22 de junio? ¿Es porque Irán ha tenido un historial de décadas de apoyo constante, tanto de palabra como de obra, al heroico pueblo palestino que resiste la ocupación fascista y de apartheid de su tierra y sus recursos?

Todas estas razones y otras más no son más que la punta del iceberg para responder a esta pregunta fundamental.

La base material para defender a Irán no es que sus dirigentes sean perfectos en todas sus políticas; gran parte de lo que ocurre en Irán tiene sus raíces en su opresión histórica, primero por el imperialismo británico y luego por el estadounidense. Dado que el mundo sigue estando dominado por un sistema imperialista parasitario, ávido de beneficios e impulsado por la guerra, no es sorprendente que ningún gobierno sea perfecto.

La base de la defensa de MO/WW es que el pueblo iraní llevó a cabo una revolución anticolonial que sacudió la tierra, que comenzó a finales de los años setenta y que finalmente, en febrero de 1979, barrió el brutal gobierno monárquico del sha Reza Pahlavi, él mismo un cliente del imperialismo estadounidense puesto en el poder por la CIA en 1953.

Que los clérigos desempeñaran un papel tan destacado en esta revolución de masas no niega su carácter de levantamiento social anticolonial que devolvió legítimamente el control sobre el petróleo y el gas a las masas iraníes. Estos recursos habían sido robados anteriormente por la entonces Anglo-Persian Oil Company, ahora BP, bajo el gobierno del sha.

Provocados cuando Estados Unidos acogió y dio cobijo al sha Pahlavi, los estudiantes iraníes asaltaron la embajada de Estados Unidos en Teherán y tomaron como rehenes a 66 militares y civiles estadounidenses el 4 de noviembre de 1979. Retuvieron a 52 de ellos durante 444 días hasta el 20 de enero de 1981, cuando se consolidó la revolución. Desde entonces, Irán ha utilizado las reservas de petróleo y gas de su propio territorio para construir su infraestructura civil tecnológicamente avanzada y crear un ejército para defender a su población.

Desde la victoria de esta revolución, la clase dominante estadounidense se ha unido tras los esfuerzos de Washington para derrocar al gobierno iraní, utilizando sanciones económicas, intervenciones militares y asesinatos de científicos y líderes militares iraníes. Esto ha ido acompañado de una demonización descarada en los medios corporativos, que utilizan caracterizaciones incendiarias y falsas como «autocrático», "terrorista" y «línea dura».

Todas las violaciones estadounidenses del derecho de Irán a la soberanía y la independencia son intentos de derrocar a un gobierno que ha jurado no sucumbir nunca a un cambio de régimen ni a las amenazas e intimidaciones imperialistas.

El desafío del gobierno iraní ha inspirado a las masas, dentro de Irán, en toda la región de Asia Occidental y en el Sur Global. Otros países soberanos que se han ganado la ira de los enemigos imperialistas de Irán, como China, Corea del Norte y Rusia, se han puesto política y materialmente del lado de Irán contra el imperialismo, porque también han sido blanco del cambio de régimen.

La creciente admiración mundial por Irán tiene a las potencias occidentales imperialistas como Estados Unidos, Gran Bretaña y otros países temblando en sus botas debido a los crecientes sentimientos antibélicos entre sus propias poblaciones que están viendo cómo su nivel de vida cae en picado debido a que su dinero se destina a armar al estado ilegal y nazi de Israel.

Es hora de que la clase obrera de los países imperialistas se desmarque y muestre su solidaridad en las calles con Irán, una nación que tiene una rica historia de ponerse del lado de los trabajadores del mundo y de los más oprimidos. Esto ayudará a debilitar al imperialismo y nos acercará al día en que toda la humanidad se libre por fin de este sistema podrido y opresor. ☐

Protesta en Teherán contra el bombardeo estadounidense a Irán, 22 de junio de 2025.

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